

THE GREAT CONTEST.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Thursday, Aug. 4, 1864.

Nothing of interest has taken place for the past two days, and very little picket firing is being indulged in on the lines at present.

An officer of a colored regiment is reported to have shot one of his men yesterday at the Commissary Depot. The officer is now under arrest.

In my dispatch of the 21st, I stated that the colored Division engaged in battle was under command of Gen. White. This was a mistake. Gen. Ferrero being in command of his own division. Gen. White acted as Chief of Staff to Gen. Burnside.

From the James River—Rebels Firing Upon the Mail Boat and Transports.
Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Aug. 5.—At 11 a. m. By a passenger on the John Brooks, Government mail boat, which left City Point yesterday forenoon at 10 o'clock, I learn that the John Brooks had proceeded down the river about 14 miles from City Point, when a steamboat and barge—the latter towed by the former—were fired into by what was judged to be a battery of four guns, in the woods on the northern bank of the river. At that part of the river the channel is very narrow, and runs within half a mile or so of the northern bank. The steamer and barge had not come enough to turn round, and so were obliged to run the gauntlet. The steamer, the passenger learned, received one shot, and, doing no great damage. The barge received one shot, which killed six horses. The barge was loaded with horses; the steamer seemed to have horses also, and a few passengers.

The mail boat, on seeing this attack, backed water, and not having got wholly into the narrow channel, was enabled to turn round and get out of range. Not, however, before the Rebel battery had time to fire four or five shots at her, which fortunately were sent too high, and went over the boat, striking the water two or three hundred yards on the other side. Two gunboats, lying in the vicinity below, ran up and fired at shot or two each, and probably sent the Rebels flying. As nothing more was heard from them. The whole thing looked as if the battery was sent down to sink the mail-boat, for the sake of the interruption of the mail to life, and possibly of the interruption of the mail to passengers on board yesterday, and about this number commonly.

A Rebel Battery at Harrison's Landing.
WASHINGTON, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

Yesterday, as the mail steamer John Brooks, plying between this city and City Point, was coming down the James River, she was fired at by a battery on Harrison's Landing. Six shots were fired, three of which passed over the steamer and three fell short. She turned back to get to her gunboats for protection, but in the meantime two of them came up the river, attracted by the firing and shelled the Rebels out. One of the shots fired by the Rebels just grazed the pilot's keel.

Five horses were killed on the steamer S. R. Spaulding, which was ahead of the John Brooks, and which was also fired into.

The Disaster of the 30th July—Its Causes and Results.

From Our Special Correspondent.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Wednesday, Aug. 3, 1864.

Twilight yesterday was not dark enough to hide the shame of the true soldiers of the Army of the Potomac, humbled by the reading of the first accounts in the New-York City papers of the last attempt made to take Petersburg by storm. The displayed headings—"EXPLOSION OF A MINE UNDER THE REBEL WORKS," "A BATTERY OF SIXTEEN GUNS BLOWN UP," "THE GRAND ASSAULT ON THE REBEL DEFENSES," "THE GREAT STRIKE OF EARLYWORKS CARRIED,"—provoked exclamations of astonishment, and under the influence of emotion and sorrow. Glorious news from Petersburg! Why, O wretched people! the ink, that made the lie that gave to false Journalism in New-York its last sensation, was not yet spread on the types, while every drummer-boy and milk-driver in the Army of the Potomac knew that a crowning disaster and a moving disgrace had happened to it, and the number of our killed, wounded, and missing was whispered among them to be five thousand. "Three tiers of earthworks carried!" Aye, carried as Pharaoh's army and chariots carried the Red Sea—carried precisely in that way. You murdered demigods of July 30, the hands of love or of patriotism that seek your remains must go down full faiths five, "Glorious News from Petersburg!" A skillfully engineered volcanic upheaval of the fortified earth, that should have opened wide to the 9th Corps the gates of victory, was converted by inability and cowardice into a yawning crater of a volcano which swallowed up with the casualties of battle five thousand men. "The Grand Assault on the Rebel Defenses!" Why, oh my poor friends and brother men at the North, the very orderlies around headquarters inquire of each other in unbelief if somebody is not to be hung for that affair of Saturday, and the negroes who black boots and wait on table, criticize the crime and blundering of the 30th, with the feeling which the useless destruction of soldiers inspires, and the impatience of men who witness the wanton waste of resources and opportunities.

Not Grant's perfectly-developed plan of drawing the bulk of Lee's army out of Petersburg by a feint movement upon Richmond by the north bank of the James—and his plan of opening a passage for his troops into Petersburg by overturning with gunpowder the Rebel works nearest his own lines—each wise, each feasible, both perfectly successful, have both been defeated and wasted by subordinate. I tell no secret when I say that Grant wrapped himself in silence on Monday, and that his heart was gnawed at by disgust and rage—and the statement of this fact is the measure of a great soldier's appreciation of the misconduct which turned an accomplished victory into a disgraceful and ruinous disaster.

What was the affair of Saturday? I shall tell it only in the outline, for it is my desire to do so wrong, yet my determination to tell the truth. So, until I gather the sure facts of the case, I will only say generally, that the commander of the corps charged with the duty and entrusted with the coveted honor of making the assault, did not accompany the troops that led it; that not a commander of a division of the corps accompanied the troops; that the corps which by the leading force was not supported for three-quarters of an hour; that when the support came up to enter in the order produced by the explosion of the mine, it found it full of the advance, in a necessarily disordered state; that the delay in supporting the leading charge gave the Rebels time to recover from the confusion and terror caused by the explosion, to gather opposite the breach all their available force, to drive back into the crater the force that had advanced beyond it, to train upon the fatal pitfall their artillery, to raise into it a fire of musketry, grape and canister, that tore remorselessly, and without the possibility of error of aim, the solid mass of wriggling, howling, twisting, crawling, helpless soldiers, black and white, that, instinctively intermingled, defied all attempts to isolate and extricate them. The survivors crawled out of the hell-hole one by one. The Rebels crowded upon the pit before it could be emptied. I am assured that we left it, of dead and of wounded and captured, and have under treatment this side of it of wounded, 3,000 men. A. W.

City Point, and What is Seen There—Colored Troops.

From Our Special Correspondent.

IN FRONT OF PETERSBURG, VA.,
Wednesday, Aug. 3, 1864.

I have just returned from City Point. It is here we go to get our dispatches and drink in the few of the associations of home. It is here that the tide of comparative peace eddies along the sanguinary current of active war. It is here that we get a glimpse, and sometimes a shake of the hand, of the civilians of the Cabinet, the Legislature, the Judiciary, the two Commissions, and the laity of church and state who preside over the destinies of the nation at the Federal metropolis and beyond—as well as a magnetic glimpse of the bright eyes and electrical curls on board of the proud palatial steamers, with gay banners flying, that remind us of the feminine graces and affections that we left behind us.

It is here where the flag of the Lieutenant-General, the biggest and brightest of them all, floats proudly above the whitest canvas and greenest bowers, and where, along the river and wharves, the benign flags of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions mingle in holy alliance with the glorious old Stars and Stripes. It is here where vessels from the Potomac, the Chesapeake, the Patuxent, the Susquehanna, the Delaware, the Hudson, the Sound, the Connecticut, the Potomac—in short, from every Northern water and port—in their nomenclature and familiar build, and the familiar faces of their officers and crews, bring to the army gushing associations of home, and of the joys and pleasures of peace, and of the glorious good time coming, when the whole country, from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, shall again be knit together in Union and brotherly love. It is here—Oh! it is here—where we get sugar in our coffee, and ice and lemon in our whiskey punch. Do you blame us, dear reader, for wanting to go to City Point occasionally—the center of the world, the army's great metropolis.

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and to the blessings of the great American Union restored.

But what comes here? What far-worn chests and trunks are these coming aboard? Let me see. Oh! this is the baggage of these deceased officers, accompanying their remains home. See! they are marked, "The Effects of" so and so, of such a regiment, killed at such a time and place, and are consigned to the same parties as the burial-cases, respectively. And here will be fresh trouble. When the funeral is over, and the new-made grave shall have been hallowed by the tears of affection, then a wife, a mother, or a sister will come to open these effects. First, perforce, will come the sword and uniform of the lost loved one, untarnished by unsoldierly act. And then will come in a thousand little remembrances of the deceased; of his life, his virtues, his manliness, his love, and affection; and then will the fountains of grief again be opened, and drained to the very dregs. Oh, the horrors of war! Alas, the miseries of Disunion and Slavery! God of mercies, have mercy on the bereaved by this war, and defend the right.

But here comes the Army mail aboard! Let's see! Twenty bags or so on the backs of as many colored men, coming in single file. These, no doubt, bear many consolations to these new mourners. They also bear messages of love and affection to those who are not yet mourners, and it is to be hoped, will not be by this war.

"All aboard! Cast off that line there!" and the proud steamer, with pluming wharves and banners flying, with its precious freight, living and dead, moves majestically off down the romantic and classic James River.

Good-by, City Point! I think I have described you and your scenes enough times for the campaign.

THE COLORED TROOPS.

It has been intimated that one element in the cause of our failure before Petersburg, on Saturday, was the prejudice and jealousy of our white troops toward the colored ones—that the former did not like the idea of the latter being put ahead of them, in the position of honor, and consequently were not so ardent and enthusiastic as they would otherwise have been.

You may rest assured that there is nothing at all in this. The colored regiments, on their way to the front, were unanimously cheered by the white troops with such cries as, "Go in, boys!" "Give them hell!" "Remember Fort Pillow!" "We'll stand to your backs!" "Go in, bullies!" and I do not believe that there was a single white soldier who saw the rejection of the colored division that was not heartily rejoiced to see a prospect of this element of our strength being made the best and most of, without regard to positions of honor, which, by the way, the veterans tell me is a played-out idea at this late day.

The cause of the failure lies in the inexplicable hesitancy of the commanders of some of the white troops not far from the front, who failed to improve the golden opportunity to "go in" at the right time. As I have said, I will not undertake to fix the responsibility, but it is necessary for the satisfaction and moral health of the Army that this be done soon, by those having the record.

THURSDAY MORNING, AUG. 4.

Of the situation this morning it can only be said that "all is quiet along the lines." Croakers will be telling you that there will be no more fighting this Summer, and all that. Humph and growl ferociously at them, and tell them they know nothing about the condition and spirit of this army and the determination of its commanders.

So far from inactivity during the remainder of this month, you may expect at any time to hear of another, of a grand series of surprises and conflicts and triumphs, to which the affair on Saturday was a mere prelude and foreshadowing of the grand series that awaits us, as sure as the Lieutenant-General's name is Grant, and those of his immediate conductors, Meade and Butler.

THE LAST REBEL RAID.

The Enrollment Going On—Gen. Couch Goes to Harrisburg.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

GREENSBURG, Pa., Friday, Aug. 5.—12 p. m.

The enrollment ordered by Gen. Couch at Pittsburgh is being vigorously enforced. The first class includes all subject to draft, the second all the able-bodied men in the city exempt by age or otherwise. The first to be subject to orders—the second for defense of Pittsburgh.

A Military Committee is defraying the expenses.

Gen. Couch goes to Harrisburg to-night to organize the State troops.

No direct report from the Potomac has been received today.

The Rebels Crossing the Potomac—Occupation of Hagerstown.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

Dispatches received here at an early hour this morning state that the Rebels were then crossing the river at Hagerstown, and that they had driven Gen. Averill's pickets into Cumberland.

A semi-official dispatch received at 9 a. m. conveys the intelligence that the Rebels occupied Hagerstown in force this morning.

The greatest consternation once more prevails among the people in the southern portion of the Cumberland Valley.

Farmers are hurrying from their homes with their stock, and the population generally is reported to be perfectly panic-stricken by the sudden and to them unexpected occupation of the country by the Rebels. Gov. Curtin has issued a proclamation calling out thirty thousand militia.

The Invasion of Pennsylvania—Proclamation by Gov. Curtin.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, HARRISBURG, Aug. 5, 1864.

The following Proclamation has been issued: In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I, Andrew G. Curtin, Governor of the said Commonwealth.

A PROCLAMATION.

The advance of the Rebel army has again crossed the Potomac, and this morning occupied Hagerstown. I call for 30,000 volunteer militia to be mustered into the service of the State, to serve during the emergency for the defense of the State.

The men sent of Johnston to Camp Curtin at Harrisburg, where they will be subsisted by the United States Government, upon the order of the State, and during the period of the existing emergency, and organize into regiments. By order of A. G. CURTIN, Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

A. S. RUSSELL, Adjutant-General, Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

The Ledger says: "From information received last evening, from apparently trustworthy sources, the order of Gen. Couch has not been issued."

unnecessarily. Among the reports which are based on good authority is, that the Rebels crossed the Potomac River at Hancock yesterday morning, several thousand strong. A fight at New-Creek, Virginia, was also reported to have taken place yesterday afternoon; but up to last evening no result had been attained."

The above report has also been received by The North American and Gazette.

The Rebels Make a Point on Harper's Ferry—Early Guarding his Trains.

BALTIMORE, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

A person who left Charleston, Va., early yesterday morning reports that a Rebel force, composed of Mosby's and Imboden's cavalry and mounted infantry, estimated at 7,000 strong, was there, and about to make a feint on Harper's Ferry, while Gen. Early, with some 12,000 infantry, was guarding the trains of plunder and grain at Bunker Hill, and was about starting up the Valley.

Rebel parties were scattered at different points in the valley, gathering in grain and collecting cattle, and would join Gen. Early in his march.

The Rebels have conscripted all the men they could lay their hands on, and even boys of sixteen years of age, but many had escaped and were hiding in the mountains.

The belief is that as soon as the trains are well advanced the entire Rebel force will retire up the valley.

The Rebels at Hancock, Md.

PHILADELPHIA, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

The Bulletin has the following special dispatch:

HARRISBURG, Pa., Aug. 5.

Five of Gen. Averill's messengers came into McConnellsburg, Fulton County, last night.

They report the Rebels are crossing the river at Hancock, 3,000 strong.

They also state that Gen. Averill is at Cumberland, and that his pickets have been driven in by the invaders.

Latest Concerning the Invasion.

HARRISBURG, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

The occupation of Hagerstown is confirmed by official dispatches. Three regiments of cavalry and two of infantry are strongly posted in and around the town.

The fact that the Rebel expedition is accompanied by infantry is a strong indication that this force is the advance of a large body, as such troops are not used for marauding purposes only.

After crossing at Shepherdstown, it appears that the enemy passed through Sharpsburg and Turkeysburg. So sudden was their descent upon Hagerstown, that the telegraph operators or who communicated was compelled to leave on a hand car, closely pursued by a cavalry force. He was in range of their revolvers for a considerable time, and only escaped by hard work at the wheels.

We are still in communication with State Line, a telegraph station on the Franklin Railroad, seven miles north of Hagerstown. The operator there states that the Rebels in Hagerstown have thrown out pickets, but as yet have made no further advance movements.

HARRISBURG, Friday, Aug. 5.—11 p. m.

A dispatch from Somerset, received at 10 p. m., states that the Union loss in the fight at New-Creek yesterday was 30 killed and 50 wounded. Gen. Kelley defeated the Rebels.

A dispatch from Greensboro at 8 p. m., states that a gentleman had just arrived there who says he saw the Rebels crossing at Williamsport between 6 and 12 o'clock this morning, 6,000 or 8,000 strong, infantry and cavalry.

HARRISBURG, Friday, Aug. 5.—10 p. m.

We had communication from this point by telegraph with State Line station at 8 o'clock this morning. The communication does not extend beyond Greensboro, the Rebels having entered Middleburg, 11 miles north of Hagerstown. In what force they occupy Middleburg is not known.

It is presumed that they have more than the five regiments which entered Hagerstown this morning.

The movements of the enemy are utterly inexplicable. They seem determined to invest their operations with as much mystery as possible, both as to numbers, intentions and points of attack.

At the same time that the five regiments were advancing toward Chambersburg, another column, it is reported, was moving up the Potomac in the direction of Cumberland, the strength of which column none of our officials are able to learn.

A telegraphic report has just reached these headquarters from Bedford to the effect that passengers by the stage, who had reached that place, represent that a fight took place at Cumberland on Thursday, which resulted in a loss to our side of 30 killed and 30 wounded. No other particulars are given.

FROM GEN. SHERMAN'S ARMY.

More Fighting—The Rebels Defeated—Important Cavalry Movement.

From Our Special Correspondent.

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama, July 28, 1864.

There have been active operations all round the lines to-day, with the usual satisfactory results. The cavalry of Gen. Stoueaman and McCook have been for a day and night detached on special duty, which I deem it unsafe at present to describe particularly, on account of the liability, in the present exposed condition of our ranks, to have our outgoing mails captured. Suffice it to say, success has completely isolated the Rebel army from its base of supplies and necessitated the abandonment of Atlanta. The great mission of Gen. Sherman's expedition into Georgia is substantially accomplished.

THE BATTLE ON THE MOUNT, OR WEST, OF ATLANTA.

About 2 p. m. the Rebels attacked the army of Howard (now commanding the late Gen. McPherson's corps). They sallied out of their works with great determination, their batteries cooperating, and keeping up a heavy shelling of our lines. The fight lasted for one hour, during which the Rebels made several distinct assaults, and Gen. Sherman in his report says, were repulsed each time with loss. Our men fought behind breastworks, and suffered small loss. It is yet too early to obtain or to send particulars of the fight, but it seems to have been but a repetition of the fruitless assaults of the enemy on the 20th and 22d. I will send particulars soon.

On the east of the town, fronting the 23d Army Corps, the Rebels kept up a furious shelling during the operations on the left to occupy our attention, and several casualties and narrow escapes from their shells occurred. At the headquarters of the 3d Division, 2d Corps, we seemed to be in direct line of one Rebel battery, which poured a constant stream of shot and shell over and into our camp. One round 12-pound shell grazed our division tent, and fell within ten feet, while we were at dinner, but did not explode. A few minutes later, a 10-pound Parrott shell struck within two feet of Gen. Rawall, who had remained a moment longer at table than the rest of the party. It literally covered the General and the table with dirt. It was the narrowest escape, the General says, which he ever had from a shell during his long experience in the war. He kept his seat, calling his staff to see how near the missile struck, and coolly remarked that he felt toward the shell as Artemus Ward expressed himself toward the engine which, on a certain interesting domestic occasion, drew up before his domicile—he felt thankful it did not split. One man near by had his leg charred off.

Rebel News for the Northern Markets—

Rebel Force on the Atchafalaya—General Exchange of Prisoners—Reported Capture of Fort Morgan.

From Our Special Correspondent.

NEW-ORLEANS, July 30, 1864.

New-Orleans to-day has her usual superfluity of rumors ready for the steamer leaving for New-York. Among others, we have had twice a day for the last week, positive assurance from Morgansia, or at least, purporting to come from Morgansia, to the effect that there had been heavy fighting there. This story was instigated on by Rebel sympathizers last evening, pretty much after the "positively last" appearance of theatrical stars prior to their departure for Europe. I have, however, authentic information that no heavy fighting has lately occurred there, nor anything but a little skirmishing, of no importance whatever in a military sense.

The facts about matters up there are substantially these: The Rebels have a force concentrated on the west bank of the Atchafalaya, numbering in the neighborhood of 12,000, and possibly 15,000 men. These troops are hungry, ragged, and thirsting for battle after the fatigues of the last campaign, and for the stores of good things which they think they might gobble if they could pounce down upon the planters and traders throughout the military districts called the Le Fourche. From the past and bygone of that name springing into the mind.

The swampy nature of the country generally, and especially now, from the unusual quantity of rain there this season, makes it exceedingly difficult for the Rebels to get into this country in any but the most direct route. They come down from the upper waters of the Atchafalaya to which Morgansia is really the key. Our hold on the latter place is, no doubt, entirely secure, and hence the Rebels have had to wait to restrain their impetuosity at our dam to their first for glory and plunder, and then to their campaign as how they are to attain. Their efforts across the Mississippi are apparently pretty much done with now that Smith and Sherman have given the easy grace to the armies in their respective directions.

There is, therefore, daily skirmishing between our pickets and those of the Rebels about there, but it is hardly likely to be anything beyond that for the present, without a decided change in the position of affairs. The Rebels dare not assault our forts, and they cannot so long as they are to stick them so long as they keep at a proper distance.

At Berwick, matters continue dull. Our gunboats enter Grand Lake and Lake Verret, so that the Rebels find it impossible to conduct their operations in the neighborhood of Berwick, and those of the Rebels about there, but it is hardly likely to be anything beyond that for the present, without a decided change in the position of affairs. The Rebels dare not assault our forts, and they cannot so long as they are to stick them so long as they keep at a proper distance.

The most they can hope to do will be to send in small straggling parties of cavalry to scare the cotton planters while they are engaged in harvesting their crops. This will be for the most part, and the Rebels will be on the double quick at sight of our gunboats.

A Rebel man-of-war was seen recently in the neighborhood of Berwick, and it was estimated that the Rebels were sending to Shreveport to be funded in Confederate bonds. At last advices this had not been funded, and I am not advised that there is a likelihood that it will be so.

The terrible condition of our returned prisoners from Tyler has induced Gen. Canby to waive some points which he had heretofore insisted on, and he has dispatched Col. Dwight, our Commissioner at the Rebel headquarters, with instructions to accept the terms of the Confederate Commissioner at Tyler, and at once exchange our men now in their hands, numbering some thirty-five hundred, so that the friends of those languishing in that bounder Bellevue, in New-York, are relieved of a heavy burden, and the satisfaction, doubtless, of knowing that they have been released. There are some two thousand of the Rebel Vicksburg garrison who will, no doubt, be included in this exchange if so arranged.

The capture of Fort Morgan, at the entrance of Mobile harbor, has been announced in this city, but I have information which enables me to pronounce this, as far as the present pressure, is concerned, as a mere rumor. I regret to run the facts and was inside the harbor, but I hardly think saw a piece of news entitled to implicit faith on the part of your readers until you receive something corroborative by next week's steamer.

[N. O. Times, 25th.]

Later.

CAIRO, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

New-Orleans dates of the 29th have been received.

The steamer Matanzas would leave for New-York on the 31st.

Gen. Banks officially acknowledges the exchange of the prisoners who recently arrived there, and has ordered those belonging to the 13th and 19th Corps to report to the proper officers for duty, and those whose term of service has expired to proceed to their respective States to be mustered out.

The Knights of the American Order—Confession of their Secretary.

ST. LOUIS, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

The Democrat of this morning contains the essential points of the confession of Green B. Smith, Secretary of the Order of American Knights.

Charles L. Hunt and Charles E. Dunn, the former the Grand, and the latter the Deputy Grand Commander, also asked for a re-examination, in which they acknowledged their former statements to be untrue, and admitted the existence of the Order of American Knights and their membership of it.

This confession gives many details of the workings and purposes of the Order, but no new facts of importance are revealed.

Recruiting in New-Jersey.

NEWARK, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders for Essex County held a special meeting to-day to take action relative to offering bounties for volunteers to fill the quota under the last call. The Committee heretofore acting in a similar capacity, were instructed to raise money, designated agents to procure recruits, and pay \$300 for one year men, and the same amount to drafted men; also to apply to the Legislature for authority to issue the necessary bonds with a proviso attached levying a poll tax of \$5 on all voters.

From Fortness Memphis.

FORTNESS MONROE, Thursday, Aug. 4, 1864.

Advices from the front report all quiet since the late battle. The extremely hot weather (thermometer averaging 100 degrees in the shade) for the past week, precludes anything like active movements.

Nearly all the wounded have been removed from the battle-field to the hospitals at Old Point, and many have been sent to different hospitals in the North. The steamer De Molay leaves this afternoon with 400 sick and wounded.

In regard to the day, the principal stores at Old Point and Norfolk are closed, and labor has been suspended. The steamer J. Johnson, which came down the James River yesterday afternoon, with a barge and schooner in tow, was fired upon by a Rebel battery at Wilcox Landing, but no damage was done.

IMMENSE SLAUGHTER OF REBELS.

Gen. Thomas has issued to his troops a congratulatory order, a circular, dated the 30th of July. He says that on the 20th the 20th Corps, one division of the 4th, and part of the 14th Corps were attacked and repulsed with loss each time, putting out of the fight 6,000 of the enemy. We buried 553 in front of Hooker, and permitted the enemy to bury 250 more. One division of the 14th Corps, which had several times repulsed the enemy's charge, had not yet reported. Newton's division of the 4th Corps repulsed the enemy seven times. Our loss is stated by Gen. Thomas to be, total in killed, wounded, and missing, 1,735. We captured on the same field seven stands of colors. On the 22d, he says, I front of Gen. McPherson, the Union loss was 3,500 in killed, wounded, and missing, and ten pieces of artillery.

The known deed of the enemy in front of the 13th and 10th Corps are 2,142. One division of the 17th Corps repulsed the Rebels in six distinct assaults, which would swell the enemy's loss in killed to at least 3,000. We captured 3,200 prisoners and 15 stands of colors. He closes with a reference to the very successful raid of Gen. Garrard on the Georgia Railroad, in which we lost only two men. I have already sent forward a not exaggerated account of this effective raid on the 22d. Gen. Thomas says we brought in 300 prisoners, and "a fair lot of fresh horses and negroes."

The Rebel army, it is believed, have lost since they crossed the Chattahoochee over twenty-four thousand men.

The Quota of New-York.

ALBANY, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

An order signed by Adj.-Gen. Sprague was issued to-day, which states that the quota of the State, under the last call of the President amounts to 99,518 men.

Under authority received from the War Department 100 companies are to be organized. Authorization will be granted to recruit a company upon application to headquarters here. Preference will be given to those who have been in the service.

The Draft—Letter from Gov. Seymour on Executive Quotas.

ALBANY, Friday, Aug. 5, 1864.

The following is Gov. Seymour's letter to Secretary Stanton, relative to the quotas in the first ten Congressional Districts of this State:

STATE OF NEW-YORK, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

ALBANY, Aug. 3, 1864.

To the Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War:

SIR: It is my duty to call your attention to the enrollment of the State for the draft lately ordered by Congress. In some of the Congressional Districts there are especially excessive and injurious. The average quotas in thirty-one Congressional Districts of New-York are 2,881; in Massachusetts and New Hampshire they are 2,167; in Pennsylvania 2,711. It will be seen that the average demand made in every Congressional District in the State is for 310 men per district more than is required in Pennsylvania, and for 714 men more than Massachusetts and New Hampshire. I name these States as I have not been able to procure the quotas assigned elsewhere.

There are no differences in the character of the population of these States to account for these discrepancies.

The most oppressive enrollments appear in the congressional districts in the cities of New-York and Brooklyn. The average demand made upon these is for 3,607 men each, while in Massachusetts the average demand upon each district is for 2,167 men. It will be seen that the average demand made in New-York and Brooklyn is for 1,440 men more than is required in Massachusetts, and for 1,440 men more than is required in New-York and Brooklyn. I name these States as I have not been able to procure the quotas assigned elsewhere.